

REMARKS

Claims 1-336 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-336 have been rejected.

Claims 45, 81, and 100 are now amended.

Claims 6 – 23, 25 – 31, 33, 35 – 44, 46 - 47, 49 – 59, 61 - 80, 82 – 91, 93 – 99, 101- 122, 124, 126 – 137, 139 – 145, 147 – 157, 159 – 166, 170 – 173, 175 – 185, 187-198, 200 – 214, 216 – 224, 226 – 234, 236 – 248, 250, 252 - 265, 267 – 275, 277 – 284, 286 – 300, and 302 – 336 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 112

The Examiner rejected claims 1 – 336 under 35 USC 112 on the grounds that the large number of claims obscures the scope of the invention. The Examiner further gives his judgment that 25 claims are sufficient to define the invention.

The Examiner further notes that there appear to be a number of inventions involved and requests that in canceling claims the applicant restrict the application to a single invention. Examiner does not however actually make a restriction requirement.

Applicant has made an enormous effort to reduce the number of claims to a more reasonable level that will not be an undue burden on the Examiner. In so doing he has canceled claims that he regards as being of great importance. Applicant submits that he has paid fees to have all of these claims examined. Applicant submits that the number of 25 is an arbitrary number selected by the Examiner but has in all events restricted the number of claims to 33, which it is sincerely hoped that the Examiner will find acceptable for continued Examination.

Claims 41, 85 and 100 were amended to deal with antecedence issues of which applicant became aware.

Favorable reconsideration of this rejection, in view of the following amendments and explanations, is respectfully requested.

The claims submitted are believed to be allowable in view of the prior art of which applicant is aware. Furthermore applicant believes that the claims as presently submitted relate to a single invention as would be searched under a single category.

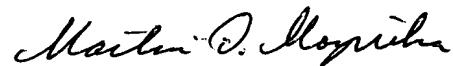
Applicant hereby reserves the right to restore any dependent claims canceled herewith to the application or to any divisional applications filed thereon following allowance.

All of the matters raised by the Examiner have been dealt with and are believed to have been overcome.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are allowable.

An early Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosed:
Petition for Extension (3 Months).